Chapter 19.555

Outdoor Equipment Screening

19.555.010 Purpose

This Chapter sets forth standards for the outdoor equipment (mechanical and utilities) screening to ensure that such features are aesthetically pleasing and adequately screen the equipment without obstructing views or causing a public safety hazard or nuisance.

19.555.020 Design and Development Standards

A. General

All outdoor equipment, whether on a roof, side of a structure, or on the ground, shall be appropriately screened from public view. The method of screening shall be architecturally integrated with the adjacent structure in terms of materials, color, shape and size. Where individual equipment is provided, a continuous screen is desirable.

B. Exterior Mechanical Equipment

- 1. Exterior mechanical equipment, except solar collectors, shall be screened from view on all sides by architectural features that are compatible in color and design with the primary structure. For rooftop equipment, the screening materials shall be at least as high as the equipment being screened. Equipment requiring screening includes, but is not limited to, heating, air conditioning, refrigeration equipment, plumbing lines, ductwork, and transformers.
- 2. Where Design Review is required for the primary structure or use pursuant to Chapter 19.710 (Design Review) of this Title, such review shall include review of required mechanical equipment screening for conformance with the provisions of this paragraph.
- 3. Mechanical equipment shall not be permitted on any exposed portion of a pitched roof, except as may be approved through the Design Review process (Chapter 19.710).

C. Ground-mounted Utility Equipment

1. Ground-mounted utility equipment such as, but not limited to, cable television boxes, electric power transformers and distribution facilities, water pumps, and telecommunications facilities (not including pole-mounted equipment) shall be screened from view on all sides with solid masonry walls or similar permanent structures. Such masonry wall or structure shall be of a neutral color. Screening with wood, chainlink, or similar fencing materials shall not be permitted.

- 2. Electric and other metering equipment and panels shall be painted to match adjacent building and wall surfaces.
- 3. Where Design Review is required for the primary structure or use pursuant to Chapter 19.710 (Design Review) of this Title, such review shall include review of required mechanical equipment screening for conformance with the provisions of this paragraph.